

# Woking Urban District.

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## ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT FOR 1898.

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BY

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*Medical Officer of Health ;*

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Joint Hospital Board.*

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*Prepared in accordance with Section 14 of the Order of the Local Government Board, dated March 23rd, 1891, regulating the duties of Medical Officers of Health.*



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# Woking Urban District.

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## ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT FOR 1898.

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*The Chairman and Members of the Urban District  
Council of Woking.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present you with my FIFTH ANNUAL  
HEALTH REPORT.

### I.—Divisions of the Parish.

For administrative purposes the District is divided into five  
Wards, each containing the following acreage, and number of  
houses, and with the following rateable and assessable values :—

Ward.	Name.	Acreage. A. R. P.	Houses	Rateable value.
Ward No. 1	Station and Maybury	753 2 0	1,372	£41,368 2 6
Ward No. 2	Village and Mayford	2,098 2 12	310	8,135 10 0
Ward No. 3	Sutton and Bridley	3,116 1 10	223	7,124 15 0
Ward No. 4	Knaphill & Brookwood	1,582 3 17	359	16,344 0 0
Ward No. 5	St. John's & Goldsworth	1,337 3 19	279	11,598 15 0

Total Rateable Value    £84,571 2 6.  
Total Assessable Value   £59,862 10 0.



## II.—Vital Statistics: Births and Deaths.

1.—Supposing the *Population* of the Parish had been increasing at the same rate during the past year as it had during the previous intercensal period, it would be estimated during the middle of the year at 9,476, exclusive of the 2,370 inmates of the Public Institutions enumerated below ; or, exclusive of this latter population, slightly above one person per acre.

2. In addition to this *Population*, there were living in Public Institutions a total of 2,370 people, namely :—(1) Brookwood Asylum and its staff quarters, 1,250 ; (2) Inkerman Barracks, 820 ; (3) Mayford Industrial School and its staff quarters, 200 ; (4) St. Peter's Home, 100. This makes a grand total of 11,846.

3. As a matter of fact, the population of Woking has grown at a greater rate during the last few years than hitherto, and nearly every habitable house is occupied ; and I gather from the rate-book, on the basis of there being five people to a house, that the *Population* may be more correctly estimated at 12,715, exclusive of the inmates of Public Institutions. On a similar basis the *Population* of each Ward would be :—(1) Station and Maybury, 6,860 ; (2) Village and Mayford, 1,550 ; (3) Sutton and Bridley, 1,115 ; (4) Knaphill and Brookwood, 1,795 ; (5) St. John's and Goldsworth, 1,395.

4. The number of *Births* registered in the parish during the year was 372. The *Birth-rate* for the year, therefore, was 39·2 per 1,000 of the population estimated at 9,476. If the population were estimated on the basis of five persons to a house—that is 12,715—then the *Birth-rate* would be 29·3.

The *Birth-rate* for all England and Wales was 29·4.

5. During the year the number of *Deaths* registered in the Parish, exclusive of those which occurred in the Public Institutions, was 151, to which must be added 11 deaths in the Guildford

Workhouse, the Royal Surrey County Hospital and Isolation Hospital, of persons belonging to the Parish. These 162 deaths represent an *Annual Death-rate* of 17·1 per 1,000 of the population, estimated at 9,476.

If the population were estimated on the basis of five persons to a house—that is 12,715, which appears to be the more correct estimate—then the *Death-rate* would be only 12·7.

The *Death-rate* for all England and Wales was 17·6.

6. As to the *Age at Death*. The deaths during the year of *infants under one year* were 44 in number, and were equal to about 12 per cent. of the registered births.

For all England and Wales it was 16 per cent. of the registered births.

The deaths during the year of *persons aged 65 years and upwards* were forty-four in number, and were about 27 per cent. of the deaths at all ages.

7. The deaths from *Pulmonary Consumption* (26 in number) were about two per 1,000 of the population estimated on the larger scale and is rather above the average. The deaths from *Bronchitis, Pleurisy and Pneumonia* were 16 in number, and were at the rate of 1·3 of the population as just estimated.

8. The deaths from the seven principal *Zymotic Diseases* were 21 in number, namely, one of *Scarlet Fever*, one of *Diphtheria*, two of *Whooping Cough*, 13 of *Diarrhœa*, one of *Enteric Fever* and three of *Measles*. The annual *Zymotic Death-rate* was therefore 1·6 per 1,000 of the population estimated on the same basis, that is, the larger one.

The rate of all England and Wales for the similar period was 2·2.

(See also Tables I, II, and III at the end of the Report.)

### III.—Summary of Sickness and Mortality from the Seven Principal Zymotic Diseases, and from certain other Diseases which have to be Notified under the Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1889, and of the Action taken for preventing their Spread.

#### 1. *Small-pox.*

There was no case in the District during the year.

#### 2. *Scarlet Fever*, otherwise called *Scarlatina*.

There were altogether 29 cases notified during the year from 23 houses, and 24 of the patients were removed to the Isolation Hospital, and one occurred at the Brookwood Asylum and was treated in the Asylum Sanitorium.

During the *First Quarter* of the year 12 notifications were received from eight houses, and nine of the patients were removed to the Isolation Hospital, whilst one was treated in the Infectious Ward of the Brookwood Asylum, and two were nursed at their own homes.

Ten of these cases were at Knaphill, and, with one exception, the infection was contracted from some children in the adjoining parish of Chobham. The patients were all children attending the Knaphill Board School. We fortunately succeeded in getting them all (five from one house) removed to the Hospital, and the further spread of the disease was promptly arrested. The School Board closed the school, but this was not at all necessary, nor was it advised by me or the Sanitary Authority. The origin of the case not removed to Hospital could not be satisfactorily accounted for.



As to the other two case notified this quarter, the two patients belonged to the Station and Maybury Ward, and one was notified from the Brookwood Asylum on the day of admission, and both patients had recently been travelling.

There were only two notifications during the *Second Quarter* of the year. One patient, a girl in the Brookwood Ward, contracted the infection from a friend in the Guildford Rural District, and was removed to the Hospital; whilst the second was a baby in the Station and Maybury Ward, and was subsequently found not to be suffering from scarlet fever.

During the *Third Quarter* eight notifications were received, namely, three from one house in the Knaphill Ward, four from three houses in the St. John's Ward, and one from the Station and Maybury Ward. These outbreaks were quite of a sporadic character, and all the patients were fortunately removed to the Hospital, and the further spread of the disease arrested. One case from the St. John's Ward, which was of an exceptionally virulent type (*scarlatina anginosa*), proved fatal.

During the *Fourth Quarter* seven cases were notified in seven houses, and six of the patients were removed to the Hospital; two belonged to the Station and Maybury Ward and the rest to the St. John's Ward. Of the former two—in one the disease was imported from the Chertsey Rural District, and occurred at the Woking Cottage Hospital, where the patient had come for an injury, and the other was the case of a lady who had just come to reside in the district, and she was the only one of the seven patients attacked this quarter who was nursed at home. As to the St. John's patients they were in no way associated with each other or with the cases alluded to in the previous quarter, nor could the infection be traced, and I may add it was most fortunate they all went to the Isolation Hospital.

*Note.*—In addition to the above I have been kindly notified by the Officers of the Royal Army Medical Corps of the cases occur-

ing at the Inkerman Barracks, which are not directly under the supervision of the Local Sanitary Authority. It appears that during the months of July and August three of the quarters were invaded and five patients attacked, all children, and who were all removed to the Military Isolation Hospital at Aldershot.

### 3. *Diphtheria.*

The district has been remarkably free from Diphtheria for several years, only one case occurring in 1895, one in 1896, six in 1897 and four during the past year.

Of the four cases reported during the past year, one was on the Royal Oak Estate in January and proved fatal; one was at Brookwood in December; and two were in brothers in the same house at St. John's, also in December. All the patients were nursed at their own homes.

Of the two brothers one was notified by two practitioners, but the parents absolutely repudiated the *diagnosis*, and although a few days after the second brother was attacked and notified, the parents, in the face of the remonstrances of the Sanitary Authority, actually sent the boys to work a few days after they were notified. With much difficulty and after legal proceedings were threatened, the boys were isolated at their own home; and at the last Meeting of the Council at the end of the year, I urged them to take action under Section 126 of the Public Health Act, 1875.

*Note.*—In addition to the above the Officers of the Royal Army Medical Corps were again good enough to notify to me the cases occurring at the Inkerman Barracks, and from which it was ascertained that three of the quarters were invaded in November and December, and eight patients attacked, and, with one exception, all were removed to the Military Isolation Hospital at Aldershot. The exception was a married woman who was too ill to move and died of the affection. The others with the exception of a soldier who

recovered were all children, and two died. The origin of the outbreak was difficult to arrive at, but was not associated with any Parish contingency.

4. *Enteric*, otherwise called *Typhoid, Fever*.

There were seven cases notified during the year from six houses in the parish, with one fatality, and four from the Brookwood Asylum, also with one fatal result.

Of the seven cases notified in the parish the first was in April in a house at St. John's, and the patient, a gentleman of forty years of age, had been travelling; the second, also in April, was a child in the Station Ward, and was of most doubtful character; the third was in May, in the Station and Maybury Ward, and was undoubtedly imported, the patient having come from Grimsby a few days previously; the fourth and fifth were in June, being a mother and her son, aged ten years, on the Royal Oak Estate, the mother died, and the boy was removed to the Isolation Hospital, and it appeared to be more a case of blood poisoning, and the infection could not be accounted for; the sixth was in Claremont Avenue, and the patient had just arrived from Felixstowe; while the seventh and last case was notified from the Village Ward, and there was a very suspicious history of oyster poisoning. With the exception of the boy on the Royal Oak Estate, all the patients were nursed at their homes.

The four cases occurring in the Brookwood Asylum were in patients of degraded habits, such as alluded to in previous reports, and under the circumstances are hardly to be compared with cases occurring outside such institutions.



### 5. *Measles.*

Measles were rather prevalent about Midsummer in the neighbourhood of Knaphill, and the schools were closed for two or three weeks. There were three deaths : two at Knaphill and one at St. John's Lye, all in children under four years of age.

### 6. *Whooping Cough.*

This affection was not prevalent during the year, but there were several sporadic cases, resulting in two deaths, both in infants under eighteen months of age.

### 7. *Diarrhœa.*

During the hot months of September and October infantile diarrhœa was rather prevalent, and caused 13 deaths.

### *Note on Influenza.*

Influenza, though zymotic, has not yet been added to the above list, and it may be mentioned here was not at all prevalent during the year. There were a few cases during the first quarter of the year, and two deaths, both in very old people.

The total deaths from these Seven Zymotic Diseases were therefore 21 in number, and were equal to an *Annual Zymotic Death Rate* of 1·6 per 1,000 of the population.

The Annual Zymotic Death Rate for all England and Wales was 2·22.

The following Table also shows the number of deaths in the District (exclusive of the deaths of non-parishioners in Public Institutions) from these seven diseases since the constitution of the Parish as an Urban District.



YEAR.	Smallpox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Whooping Cough.	FEVERS.			Diarrhoea.	TOTALS.	
						Typhus.	Enteric.	Other kinds.		Number.	Rate per 1,000 of the Population.
1894 ...	—	—	—	2	5	—	1	—	—	8	·8
1895 ...	—	4	—	—	16	—	—	—	5	25	2·8
1896 ...	—	3	—	—	4	—	1	—	2	10	·9
1897 ...	—	—	2	1	4	—	1	—	5	13	1·1
1898 ...	—	3	1	1	2	—	1	—	13	21	1·6

Of the other Diseases to which the Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1889, applies, the following cases were notified, viz.:—

#### *Puerperal Fever.*

There were two notifications during the year, both from crowded localities in the Station Ward.

#### *Erysipelas.*

There were seven notifications from seven private houses, but none of the cases were of any Public Health importance.

### OTHER MEASURES TAKEN FOR PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

#### (1) *Inspection and Isolation of Infected Premises, School Children, etc.*

With a very few exceptions, such as some notifications of erysipelas, and where quite unnecessary, I have visited all the cases notified above, and in addition to the measures described of isolating infected premises and school children, I have also adopted the same method of examining children attending schools, as described in previous reports; and it is again very

satisfactory to observe the comparative absence of diphtheria for the last three or four years.

(2) *Disinfection, etc.*

The following further action, as adopted by my predecessor, was taken for preventing the spread of some of these diseases :— Disinfectants were supplied, and their proper use explained ; nuisances, when found on the premises, were abated as far as was practicable ; the well water, when suspected, was analysed ; and after the recovery, death, or removal of the sick, the final cleansing and disinfecting of the houses and articles were secured, the first stage of the disinfection, viz., that by sulphur-fumigation, having been performed at most of the premises by the Sanitary Inspector. Infected articles were removed from most of the houses, together with the patients, and from many other houses after the illnesses were over, and were disinfected by the Washington Lyons' Disinfector at the Isolation Hospital ; compensation was given when any infected articles were destroyed.

(3) *The Surrey County Council Zymotic Returns.*

The monthly collection from, and subsequent distribution to every Medical Officer of Health in Surrey, by Dr. Edward Seaton, Medical Officer to the County, of the various monthly Notification returns from every Sanitary District in the County, together with the returns of the other Zymotic Diseases where ascertained to be prevalent, again proved most valuable in showing the relative prevalence of all Zymotic Diseases in the several Sanitary Districts, and so putting the officers of the various Authorities on the alert when infection from without threatened to invade their own Districts.

## IV.—Guildford, Godalming and Woking Joint Hospital Board.

### 1. *Isolation Hospital.*

A loan of £1,800 having been negotiated with the Public Works Loan Board, for alterations and additions to the present buildings, a contract with Messrs. Brown Bros., Builders, of Bramley, having been sealed, the work was commenced early in the year, and completed by the autumn.

It consisted of an additional Wing to the Administrative Pavilion, or Block, containing a Nurses' Common Hall, four bedrooms for Nurses, and three additional rooms with accommodation for two persons each, and adapted for emergency nurses, ward-maids, or servants, making in all seven additional bedrooms. Separate bathrooms and lavatories, of which there were previously none, were also erected for the accommodation respectively of the Superintendent and Matron and the Nursing Staff. The Superintendent's quarters were also enlarged, and commodious house-keeper's store and larder provided.

To the Scarlet Fever Pavilion, or Block, were added two Bathrooms, of which hitherto there were none, there only having been a moveable bath in the lobby. Each bathroom is approached by a lobby with cross ventilation separating it from the Wards, and a convalescent patient can be discharged from the bathroom without re-entering the Pavilion itself.

This new Wing to the Administrative Block allows a commodation for at least six more patients in the Ward Blocks or Pavilions, namely, four in the upstairs Ward in Block E, which had been used as a nurses' bedroom for some years, and one bed previously used for the charge nurse in each of Blocks B and F.

At present therefore there is accommodation for 46 patients, allowing each patient 2000 cubic feet air space and 144 square feet floor space per bed, as stipulated by the Local Government Board.



## 2. *Synopsis of cases in the Isolation Hospital during 1898.*

During the year there were altogether 127 patients under treatment.

At the commencement of the year there were remaining in the Hospital five patients, all suffering from *Scarlet Fever*, of whom three belonged to the Borough of Guildford and two to the Guildford Rural District.

During the year there were 122 fresh admissions, viz., *Scarlet Fever*, 100 ; *Diphtheria*, 14 ; and *Enteric Fever*, eight. Of the 100 admissions of *Scarlet Fever*, 44 were from the Borough of Guildford, 24 from Woking, 23 from the Guildford Rural District, and nine from Godalming. Of the 14 admissions of *Diphtheria*, 7 were from Guildford Rural District, 5 from the Borough of Guildford, 1 from Godalming, and 1 from Woking. Of the 8 admissions of *Enteric Fever*, 5 were from the Guildford Rural District, 2 from Godalming, and 1 from Woking.

There were 5 deaths during the year, viz., 3 from *Enteric Fever*, 1 from *Scarlet Fever*, and 1 from *Diphtheria*. Of the deaths from *Enteric Fever*, 2 of the patients came from the Guildford Rural District, and 1 from Godalming ; the *Scarlet Fever* patient came from Woking, and the *Diphtheria* patient from the Borough of Guildford.

At the end of the year there remained in the Hospital 25 patients, all suffering from *Scarlet Fever*, of whom 17 belonged to the Borough of Guildford, 4 to the Guildford Rural District, 3 to Woking, and 1 to Godalming.

The number of patients who were admitted into the Hospital and the number who died therein since the Hospital was taken over, at the end of 1893, by the Joint Board from the Guildford Rural Sanitary Authority, is shown in the following Table :—



From what Districts.	YEARS.	Scarlet Fever.		Diphtheria.		Enteric Fever.	
		Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
Guildford (Rural)	1894	24	...	30	6	...	...
	1895	19	..	2	...	...	...
	1896	21	...	19	7	1	...
	1897	13	...	14	5	...	...
	1898	23	...	7	...	5	2
Guildford (Urban)	1894	11	...	17	5	...	...
	1895	17	...	4	...	1	...
	1896	6	...	3	1	1	...
	1897	24	1	4	...	1	...
	1898	44	...	5	1	...	...
Godalming	1894	7	...	1	...	...	...
	1895	9	...	1	1	1	1
	1896	20	...	23	5	...	...
	1897	7	...	7	5	...	...
	1898	9	...	1	...	2	1
Woking.....	1894	33	...	4	1	...	...
	1895	7	...	...	...	1	...
	1896	28	1	1	...	2	1
	1897	21	...	3	1	...	...
	1898	24	1	1	...	1	...

The Hospital was established by the Guildford Rural Sanitary Authority in 1885.

*Small-pox* was not treated at the Hospital after 1893.

### 3. *Isolation for Small-pox Patients.*

After a good deal of litigation since the selection of the site, a tender for £4,795, by Mr. Alfred Johnson, builder, of Guildford, was accepted and sealed for the erection of a Small-pox Hospital, on Whitmoor Common, Worplesdon.

The work was progressing favourably till December, when an application was made in the High Court, by Mr. R. Garton and others in the neighbourhood, for an injunction to restrain the Joint Board from injuring the turf on the approach to the site in carting the building materials thereto.

Pending the trial, the Joint Board gave an undertaking before Mr. Justice Stirling, in the High Court, to refrain from disturbing the turf to a greater extent than it was assumed had already been done.

## V.—Water Supply.

### 1. *The Water Company.*

During the past year the supply of water to the District was affected by the almost unprecedented drought, and as a consequence the supply from the constant system had to be suspended by the Woking Water Company for certain hours during parts of the third and fourth quarters of the year, and notice was also given by the Company to the Urban District Council to cease taking water from the mains for road-watering purposes during the same period.

The Council have therefore wisely decided to erect in various parts of the Station and Maybury Ward large tanks, which will be supplied with spring water from the Council's land at Woking Park Farm in the Village Ward, and it is hoped that sufficient water will be obtained both for street watering and flushing of sewers in the Station District. The water will be conveyed from the Farm to three tanks by means of the hydraulic power main intended to lift the sewage from the low-lying parts of the Parish.

In view of the experience of last summer, and the continued increase in the demand for water on account of the rapidly increasing population of Woking, and the consequent increasing requirements for sanitary and other purposes, the Woking Water Company has given notice to apply for Parliamentary Powers to obtain additional supplies of water from several sources, including the River Thames at a point near Laleham Ferry, wells in the chalk near Dapdune, Guildford, wells in the greensand at Gomshall and Albury, and adits in the neighbourhood of East Horsley, and it is to be hoped that the necessary sanction will be obtained to anyhow some of these sources, especially the Thames,

as the question of the future supply of water to the District would then be put upon a sound basis, and the Company rendered independent of the effects of a repetition of the deficient rainfall of 1897, increased as it was by the unusual drought of 1898.

I may add, that in addition to the driving of further adits and shafts in connection with their existing works at Clandon and West Horsley, they have also completed the continuation of the additional service reservoir at Clandon, to contain 500,000 gallons, referred to in my last Annual Report. But when it is computed that the number of new services in the Company's District during 1898 was nearly 400, and that the distributory pipes were extended for a length of  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles, it is quite clear that extra sources of supply are a most pressing and momentous question, and how important it is that the Woking District Council should assist the Company in supporting the Bill just before Parliament in obtaining increased supplies.

## 2. *Well Water.*

Nine samples of well water, against 10 in 1897, and 26 in 1896, were sent to me for examination during the year. All of these 9 samples proved to be unfit for drinking purposes, and in 8 cases a supply was taken from the Water Company's mains. As stated in previous Reports the wells in the District are all shallow, few being more than 20 feet deep, and many much less than that. The water reaching these wells is consequently almost entirely surface water and easily contaminated. This is all the more so, in that about two-thirds of the area of the District are of the Middle and Lower Bagshot Bed formation, and the surface layers of these sands are very porous.

# VI.—Sewage Disposal Systems, etc.

## 1. *Drainage Scheme.*

Owing to the very favourable weather during the year, great progress was made in the laying of the sewers, about three-fourths



being now completed. The construction of the filter tanks, and the buildings at the outfall works, are also nearly complete, and the filtration area is in process of being laid out. Indeed it is expected that connections with the high level sewer will be able to be made early in June ; and there is no doubt that owners of property, especially in the Station District, will readily avail themselves of the earliest opportunity of connecting, if only on account of the enormous expense they are put to in emptying cesspools.

Owing to the rapid development of several building estates since the scheme was propounded, it has been found necessary to provide additional sewers, and application has been made to the Local Government Board for sanction to borrow a supplemental loan of £17,000 for the purposes of further sewerage and sewage disposal, and for that purpose Colonel W. Langton Coke, M.Inst.C.E., one of the Local Government Board Inspectors, will hold an Inquiry at the Council's Offices early in the year.

## 2. *Systematic Scavenging.*

The collection of house refuse in the Station and Maybury Ward weekly, instead of fortnightly, suggested in my last Annual Report, was adopted by the Council in the month of August, and has since been carried out with advantage.

The arrangements for emptying the closet pails twice a week have also been carried out, and during the year in this Ward as many as 88,400 pails were emptied and disinfected.

The cost of emptying cesspools in the Station District is still so costly that they are occasionally allowed to overflow on to the surface, more especially in the case of the smaller properties. In many instances the cost of emptying cesspools amounts to as much as half the rental, and until the Sewage Scheme is completed it will be almost impossible to absolutely prevent this nuisance.



## VII.—Summary of other Proceedings and Applications of the Sanitary Acts.

### 1. *Sanitary Committee.*

A Sanitary Committee was again appointed, to whom the Council delegated powers with references to nuisances, water supply, infectious diseases, disposal of sewage and refuse, the supervision of slaughter-houses, dairies, cowsheds, and milk shops.

### 2. *Nuisances.*

The Sanitary Inspector's statements as to the nuisances discovered and dealt with, and other work done during the year, is given on page 28. Among other matters which gained attention were the following :—

(a.) Several complaints were received as to the nuisance arising from the offensive smoke issuing from the Electric Light Works, the Mineral Water Works, and the Motor Car Works. Notices were served under Sec. 91 Public Health Act, 1875, and the nuisances abated.

(b.) The nuisance of keeping pigs in too close proximity to premises in North Road.

(c.) The overcrowding of a cottage in School Board Road, which was abated.

(d.) The nuisances arising from overflowing cesspools in Walton, Boundary and Courtenay Roads, and which were temporarily abated on the service of notices on the owners, but can only be effectually remedied by the completion of the Sewage Scheme.

(e.) Slaughtering of pigs upon premises near Goldsworth Road, which has been discontinued.

(f.) Defective lighting, paving and drainage of old premises used as slaughter-houses, in which improvements were carried out on notices being served.

### 3. *New Appointment of Sanitary Inspector.*

Owing to the enormous increase in the work of the combined offices of Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector, held by Mr. G. J. Wooldridge, the Local Government Board gave notice that at the expiration of the year the appointments must henceforth be separated, Mr. Wooldridge was therefore relieved of the duties of Sanitary Inspector, and Mr. J. H. Ablett, one of the Sanitary Inspectors of Birmingham, was elected to the office thus rendered vacant.

### 4. *Thames Conservancy Act, 1894.*

The Thames Conservancy has again served notices on a few owners of property in the Village Ward to cut off foul water drains from discharging into the tributary of the River Wey. They have also during the past year caused periodical inspections of the sewage works to be made.

### 5. *Dairies, Cow Sheds, and Milk Shops Order.*

Number of registered cowkeepers, dairymen and purveyors of milk, carrying on business at commencement of the year ...	16
Number since registered ... ..	2
Number of registered premises inspected during the year ...	18
Total number of visits paid during the year ... ..	20
Number of cow sheds and dairies at which improvements in the lighting, ventilation, paving, drainage, means of cleansing or water supply were made during the year ... ..	Nil
Number of cowsheds or dairies which were found in a filthy state ... ..	2
Number of premises at which the milk vessels were found in an unclean state ... ..	1

### 6. *Bakehouses' Factory Act, 1878-1883.*

I have visited during the year the retail Bakehouses in the District, and as a result I should say the provisions of the Act have been generally and systematically carried out.

### 7. *Inspections under the Factory and Workshops' Act, 1891.*

The Workshops and Work-rooms were inspected during the year with respect to their sanitary arrangements, ventilation, and cleanliness, and on the whole the provisions of the Act were fairly satisfactorily carried out.

### 8 *Slaughter House Act, 1888.*

There are only 2 licensed slaughter houses in the District. One at Knaphill, the license for which was granted by the Guildford Rural Sanitary Authority before the District was constituted an Urban Authority, and the other situated in the Station Ward, but, unlike the former, this is subject to an annual license.

### 9. *Gipsies.*

The Local Government Board on the 7th February, 1898, confirmed the Byelaws to which reference was made in my Report of 1897, and the value of those Byelaws, which render liable in certain cases the person by agreement with whom tents are erected upon land, has been demonstrated.

Convictions were obtained against the owner of the land at St. John's, upon which there was an encampment having no proper water supply and no sufficient privy accommodation, etc., and a conviction was also obtained against the owner of land in the Goldsworth Road, upon which there was an encampment having no sufficient privy accommodation, etc.

The Byelaws of the Council have, I believe, been approved of and adopted by many other District Councils.

### 10. *Building Byelaws.*

The following table, which Mr. G. J. Wooldridge, the Council's Surveyor, has kindly furnished, shewing the number of Plans approved and Houses erected in the Parish of Woking since 1890, demonstrates the remarkable development of the Parish since it was constituted an Urban District in 1893.



1890	...	...	...	...	92	Plans approved.
1891	...	...	...	...	61	Do.
1892	...	...	...	...	99	Do.

	Houses		Stables, Additions & other Buildings		Public Buildings	Roads
	Approved	Erected	Approved	Erected	Erected	Constructed
1893	79	63	29	28	3	—
1894	136	98	43	42	1	6
1895	244	135	23	23	—	9
1896	288	228	41	41	2	6
1897	218	137	60	52	—	2
1898	120	82	42	37	3	3

#### 11. *Burial Grounds Regulations, 1853.*

The question of providing more ground for the burial of the dead is one which must engage the attention of the Council at the earliest possible period.

With a view to meeting the pressing emergency in the Village Ward, the Right Hon. the Earl of Onslow has generously presented the Ecclesiastical Authority with one and a half acres of land in immediate proximity to the present churchyard.

At St. John's, the only other burial ground in the parish—except the Necropolis at Brookwood—the present space will shortly be filled up and the ground no longer available for the purpose for which it has been so long used.

### VIII.—Meteorology.

This summary as to the observations in this District is again kindly contributed by Mr. Henry Horncastle, of Lindisaye, Horsell, Woking.

*Rainfall.* Rain fell on 148 days, equal to 20·25 inches, being 3·75 inches less than the average of the previous four years. The heaviest



monthly fall was in the month of October 3·53 inches, November coming next with a fall of 3·18 inches. The months of January and July were the driest 0·82 inches only falling in the former and 0·42 inches in the latter month.

*Snow* fell on March 24th and 25th, equal to 0·23 inches of rain, the weather being very stormy on these days. A little fell on July 4th and 18th and November 28th. On March 3rd there was a slight fall mingled with rain. *Sleet* fell on February 26th and March 26th.

*Hail* fell on February 28th and on June 25th.

*High Winds* occurred on March 24th and 25th, the weather then being very stormy. On October 22nd and December 26th and 27th, the latter day being very stormy. The disastrous gales which occurred on the sea coasts, and in various parts of the country in the first and third weeks of November were only slightly felt here.

*Thunderstorms* took place on May 23rd and 31st, June 2nd, and the night of October 29th. The severe thunderstorms which occurred in many parts of the country in the third week of August, did not reach here, but were very visible in the S.W. and S.E.

*Fogs* were in evidence on January 16th and 17th, November 17th, and December 21st. I may mention that fogs are more prevalent at Woking Station and the lower parts of the District.

*Barometric Pressure.* The highest reading (corrected and reduced) of the Barometer was 30·84 inches in January, and the lowest reading 28·82 inches in November. The mean of the daily readings for the year was 30·03 inches, the average for the previous four years being 29·98 inches.

*Temperature* (shade).—The maximum temperature was 91° in September, the mean for the year being 59·76°. The minimum was 20° in December, the yearly mean being 43·48°. The mean for the year was 51·14°, the average of the previous four years being 50·08°. Attention may be called to the rather high

temperature of the first three weeks in September, the maximum mean being  $79^{\circ}$  the minimum  $51^{\circ}$ , the mean of both being  $65^{\circ}$ , and also for the first three weeks in December, the maximum mean being  $52.3^{\circ}$ , the minimum  $42.6^{\circ}$ , the mean of both being  $47.4^{\circ}$ .

The amount of *Rain* (inches) registered each month at Lindisaye, Horsell, and Pyrford Vicarage respectively was as follows ;—

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.	Rainy Days
Lindisaye Horsell, }	0.82	1.31	1.23	1.12	2.79	1.39	0.42	1.04	1.04	3.53	3.18	2.38	20.25	148
Pyrford Vicarage }	1.25	1.32	0.97	0.93	2.65	1.55	0.45	0.95	1.18	3.68	3.09	2.46	20.48	110

The Sanitary Inspector's Report and certain Statistical Tables will be found at the end of this Report.

In conclusion, I have again to thank the Surveyor, Mr. G. J. Wooldridge, C.E., for valuable assistance, especially in drawing up for me Section vi. on Sewage Disposal, &c., as well as the paragraph on the Building Byelaws, Section vii. I also have to again thank Mr Henry Horncastle, of Horsell, for the interesting Section viii., on the local meteorological phenomena.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. WELLINGTON LAKE.

TOPCROFT, GUILDFORD,

*February 18th, 1899.*



## IX.—Sanitary Inspector's Report for the Year ending December 31st, 1898.

Number of complaints as to non-removal of house refuse, &c., received in writing ... ..	48
Number of nuisances abated ... ..	708

### *Particulars of work done by Owners or Occupiers, for Abatement of Nuisances, in compliance with notice:—*

Number of privies, drains, cesspools, ditches <i>cleansed</i> , and of accumulations or deposits <i>removed</i> ... ..	654
Number of pail closets emptied and disinfected in the Station Ward ... ..	88,400
Number of new privies or earth closets provided ... ..	4
Number of old privies reconstructed as pail closets or otherwise...	0
Number of premises at which the drains were trapped, or other- wise improved, or disconnected from the house pipes ...	0
Number of premises at which new drains or cesspools were provided ... ..	1
Number of houses at which injurious overcrowding was abated...	1
Number of houses which were cleansed and disinfected after infectious disease ... ..	24
Number of premises where animals were kept in a filthy condition ... ..	1

### *Water Supply:—*

Number of samples of water analysed ... ..	9
Number of houses to which water was supplied by owners after notice ... ..	17

G. J. WOOLDRIDGE.



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X.—APPENDIX.

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TABLE II.

Showing the Sickness recorded in the District, from the under-mentioned Zymotic Diseases in each quarter of the Year 1898, and the totals since the Parish was constituted an Urban District.

Quarters of the Year.	Aged Under 5 or Over 5.	Small-pox			Scarlet Fever			Diphtheria			Enteric Fever			Membran- ous Croup			Puerperal Fever			Erysipelas		
		Cases	Houses Invaded	Removed to Hospital	Cases	Houses Invaded	Removed to Hospital	Cases	Houses Invaded	Removed to Hospital	Cases	Houses Invaded	Removed to Hospital	(Cases)	Houses Invaded	Removed to Hospital	Cases	Houses Invaded	Removed to Hospital	Cases	Houses Invaded	Removed to Hospital
January to March	Under 5 ..... 5 upwards	2	9	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2
April to June	Under 5 ..... 5 upwards	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
July to September	Under 5 ..... 5 upwards	2	5	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	3	3	3	3
October to December	Under 5 ..... 5 upwards	7	7	6	1	2	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	2	2
* Total in 1898	Under 5 ..... 5 upwards	5	23	5	5	2	2	2	2	2	6	1	1	2	2	2	2	7	7	7	7	7
Total in 1897	All ages	32	28	21	6	6	3	7	4	1	7	4	1	1	1	1	11	11	11	11	11	11
Total in 1896	All ages	35	23	28	1	1	1	7	7	2	15	6	1	1	1	1	9	9	9	9	9	9
Total in 1895	All ages	9	4	7	2	1	1	15	6	1	4	4	1	1	1	1	10	6	6	6	6	6
Total in 1894	All ages	44	31	35	9	9	4	4	4	1	4	4	1	1	1	1	10	6	6	6	6	6

\* In addition to the above there were 8 cases of Scarlet Fever and 5 of Diphtheria notified from the Barracks, and 4 of Enteric Fever from Brookwood Asylum. These cases were treated in their own Infectious Hospitals.



TABLE III.

Showing the estimated Population, the Annual Birth-rate, and certain Death-rates for the fourteen years, 1885-1898.

Year.	Population.	Number of Births.	Birth-rate per 1,000	Number of Deaths.	Death-rate per 1,000
1885 .....	6850	252	36·5	95	13·8
1886 .....	7050	249	35·2	118	16·7
1887 .....	7250	261	36·0	74	10·5
1888 .....	7450	232	31·1	84	11·3
1889 .....	7650	223	29·1	107	14·0
1890 .....	7850	272	34·5	128	16·3
1891 .....	8050	239	29·5	107	13·3
1892 .....	8250	230	24·2	134	16·2
1893 .....	8450	283	33·4	100	11·7
1894 .....	9660	274	28·4	105	10·7
1895 .....	10120	289	30·0	134	14·2
1896 .....	11075	342	35·4	130	11·8
1897 .....	11646	376	32·2	134	11·1
1898 .....	12715	372	29·3	162	12·7

*Mean Annual Birth-rate for last ten years, 30·6.*

*Mean Annual Death-rate for last ten years, 13·2.*

The *deaths* of Parishioners in the Workhouse, Royal County Hospital, Brookwood Asylum, and Isolation Hospital, are included in this Table; but the *population* and *deaths* in the Woking Public Institutions are excluded.



